

**December 3, 2010 – 10:00 A.M. – DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING – Newton County Government Center**

Present were Board Members Chr. Russell Collins & James Pistello; County Engineer Larry Holderly; Surveyor Chris Knochel; Secretary Debra Honn.

Russell Collins opened the meeting stating that since one of the board members was absent today and another one is arriving late, we could speak about certain topics, however no votes could be taken until a quorum is present.

**Gary Coleman** - The minutes state that Mr. Gary Coleman is present. Chris Knochel explained that Mr. Coleman's mobile home is considered an obstruction and due to lack of drainage on his property, the trailer must be moved. Gary stated that he is willing to work with us. Butch Cain stated that the mobile could be moved to any park in the county however must have special exception as hardship case to move to any private property in the county. Gary stated he will move it one way or another and will find someplace to move it. Gary must meet with the Planning Commission and/or BZA in order to obtain an exception and permit if he decides to seek hardship. It was suggested he get together with Butch to resolve any questions he might have. Gary stated the drain is functioning fine right now. Chris stated if it gets bad over the winter, we will bring in some equipment and do something to make it work until it is opened up again. Chris stated that Gary will probably be on the Drainage Board Agenda until this issue is resolved.

**Kentland Conservancy** - There was a lengthy conversation between Chris, Steve Ryan, Dave Smart, Larry Holderly and Russ Collins concerning the East Kent Ditch and RR Ditch. Chris showed a diagram of the combined drains and watershed that directly or indirectly affects Kentland. Chris stated that there was a swap when the conservancy was developed and history and documentation reflect that the town takes care of the RR Ditch in town and the county takes care of the RR Ditch in the country. Chris stated that from 1400 North to Montgomery Ditch is handled through the county and 1400 South to town is handled by the Kentland Conservancy. The town is asking for the RR Ditch to be cleaned starting at 1400 N to Montgomery and the Conservancy will clean going south to town. Chris agreed to get started on this.

Dave Smart brought up the conservancy issue of the 11 acres that they sold to the Baptist Church of 57 or 60 acres and stated that they had engineers involved with a debt incurred in the amount of \$30,000.00. There are 100 acres south of the Industrial Park that nobody knows how to assess. How do we take care of that debt? We need to find a way to solve this problem so that it goes away. Steve Ryan asked if the county will pay for that. Dave Smart suggested that the county, conservancy and Baptist Church all share in the debt. Larry stated that the tile north of the Baptist Church was put in for the Industrial Park. Jen stated that in order to qualify for help from Economic Development, jobs must be created. Therefore based upon that information, Economic Development would not be of help in this situation as no jobs are being created stated Steve Ryan. After continued discussion it was suggested by Dan Blaney that he meet with Steve Ryan, Chris & Larry Holderly to discuss and define the situation and then report back to the drainage board. Russ stated if the area of 100 acres is not being annexed then it needs to be added to the conservancy.

**Beaver Creek Bid letting:** First proposal is from Edwyn Mattox & Son at rate of \$69, 900; Ronnie Madison \$68, 310.00; C & H Crane \$74,850.00; JD Excavating \$61, 980.00. Chris' estimate on the Beaver Creek was \$65,430.90.

**Hidden Pines/Hibler** – Chris reported that we are now looking at the drainage for Hidden Pines Subdivision located at the Jasper County line & SR 10. According to the field research there appears to be sufficient grade that we can send that storm water the direction of the Hibler. Heyde Engineering is looking at that now and doing a rough grade determination to see if we want to change courses as we would be reversing water from the Otis Boyle into the Hibler. We don't want to move Newton County water through Jasper County. Questions continued from Butch Cain & Dan Blaney regarding the issue.

Dan Blaney stated that he and Chris had been working with **Nipsco** on the **Denham Subdivision** problem. Nipsco has admitted that they put the poles in the wrong place.

John Carr from Nipsco was very helpful and tried to send Chris & Dan into the right direction. No resolution has been made at this time.

Jim Pistello arrived at 11:10 AM and apologized to everyone for his late arrival.

Chris stated in addition to the **Denham Subdivision Lateral**, he is looking at repairs on the **Stucker Ditch M-76** and **John Guildenzoph Tile M-11** and trying to correct some drainage problems in that area.

**Camblin Tile Extension** – Chris stated this is a situation where we have had some landowner activity to add some tile on his own property to an existing tile. What Chris has recommended is to make an extension of the J.R. Camblin Tile which would actually be a lateral to that name. He said we have some lengths and elevations for this so he turned the conversation over to Larry. Larry stated that the tile could be extended and stated that the Wisemans were concerned about the surface water running across CR 500W. Scott Carlson agreed that if we get 1 1/2 "of rain – there is water. Russ stated we could bore down under the road. Maury Wiseman stated there is water in a hole at the end of his driveway at CR 600 S and that it is coming from the Triplett Tile. He said the watershed changed then there was the ability to add a shut-off at the driveway. Scott stated there is tile that goes down south towards 600S that drains approximately 20 acres. Maury said if the water is from the north, then he wants tile shut-off so it goes north. Most of the water coming in there is through tile, not surface water. Chris said Larry has stated that the Triplett Tile is not working to the south. Chris and Larry both stated that the Triplett Tile is not functioning properly to the south. Maury commented if water is coming from the south, then he is at the top of the watershed. Wetlands are designed to handle surface water not tile water. That's why he is asking for a shut-off at the drive. Chris said you can't plug tile when it is not working and that we need to go out next Spring to repair the non-functioning Triplett Tile. Maury stated he wants the control now and Jim asked if that is something Maury can do. Scott said it doesn't affect him at all. Maury said it is probably something he can do to some degree. Chris stated that the tile is relieving itself and if it doesn't do it there, then it will do it somewhere else. Scott said that tile vents had been farmed over downstream. Larry said there is a hole and it needs to be alleviated. Russ asked Chris if the tile could be repaired by Spring to which Chris responded yes, depending upon the weather. Chris' suggestion was to extend the John R. Camblin Lateral as a regulated drain. He said perhaps the decision should be tabled for now until they can get out to check the tile. Scott said they could work on the surface water. Russ mentioned that we have been meeting on this for the last three meetings and if we can change the drainage which will still give them access. He stated if we change it and regulate, then everyone has access. If not, they have to work together. Maury said he couldn't speak for the property owners to the north. Russ asked if that would be changing the 20 acres to another watershed. Chris said he recommends making the change and regulating the drain. Dan Blaney asked Chris what he wants the board to do to which Chris replied "regulate the drain". Jim made a motion to extend the John R. Camblin Lateral and make the lateral part of the legal drain. Russ made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Motion carried. Jim stated we must get this finished. If the highway needs to bore under the road for tile, then we will bore under the road. Whatever needs to be done out there, we'll get it done. Russ said we will look at the shut off in the Spring. Chris said we need to define the downstream John R. Camblin Lateral landowners and determine what affect it will have on them if any. Russ stated the determination on the shut- off will be made in January or February. He also asked that Chris and Larry report back to the board on their progress at the 2<sup>nd</sup> January meeting.

**Other Matters** – Rick Schuette stated that he and his brother are working on a couple of waterways. One starts at 600 E just N of 24 and the other on CR 550E (Monjon Tile). The one on CR 550 has flooded 3 times in the past 5 years. Rick and his brother are working on straightening the waterways as much as possible. He also wants the county to look at the road culvers as they are possibly not long enough to the west or they may need shield or possibly too low. He would like us to check and see if something can be done as there is much more water by Monjons – between Schuette & Monjon. He would like surveyor and/or engineer to look at this. Russ asked Chris to look at this.

**Beaver Creek Bids** - Jim made a motion to accept the bid from JD Excavating in the amount of \$61,980.00. Second motion made by Russ. Motion carried.

**Minutes** - Jim made a motion to approve the minutes. Second motion made by Russ. Motion carried.

Jim made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Second motion made by Russ. Motion carried.